

We are often astonished to see men of great intelligence, and often of acknowledged genius, who suffer themselves to be deceived by spiritualism. The latest victim of the delusion is Camille Flammarion, the great French astronomer, who acknowledges that he was misled by a medium, thru whom he conversed with the spirit of Galilio in regard to the moons of Jupiter. Seems to us that since spiritualism is the science of lunacy, its information about moons ought to be authoritatively correct. How pitifully even the most brilliant mind gropes in darkness when it is not enlightened by Christ.

The sudden ripening of the wheat harvest in Central Kansas brought out the binding machines on a Sunday, and the papers state that churches were closed, and preachers went to the field to help save the wheat. Perhaps the ox was really in the ditch, but we have noticed that this is a persuasion which it is sometimes not difficult to induce. The tendency to steal Sunday from the Lord is by no means hid in a corner. Laws have to be passed to prevent the wicked from desecrating it, and yet this desecration is often encouraged by the bad example of church members.

In some towns Sunday base ball is forbidden by law, while golf is allowed to be played on the day. We suppose that the difference is the same as between tweedledee and tweedledum. Great pressure is being brought to bear upon legislatures to repeal all Sabbath laws, and in many places officers refuse to enforce them. The effort to interpret liberty with license is widespread and insolent, and requires the constant vigilance of all lovers of righteousness, lest that which is most sacred shall be trampled under profane and irreverent feet.

A bicyclist wagers to ride for a week on top of an unused chimney in Washington, 195 feet high, his wheel to revolve on training rollers. It is the general opinion that before the week ends there will be one fool less in the world, but he won't be missed. Mortal risk is insane when it is actuated by a selfish and unworthy motive but becomes heroic when the object justifies it. For this reason "he that loveth his life more than me is not worthy of me."

On July 4, a big firecracker was thrown into a saloon in Trenton, N. J., wrecking the room badly, and seriously injuring three men who were drinking at the bar. The incident created a big sensation in the town, and roused the police to unusual activity in the effort to discover who threw the bomb. The fact that perhaps a hundred, perhaps a thousand men are far more seriously injured by the regular business of this same saloon appears to create no excitement.

The ministers of Ann Harbor, Mich., have agreed to refuse to marry divorces unless a strict scrutiny reveals that they are the innocent party to a divorce for scriptural reasons. It is rather remarkable that this action of the Ann Harbor preachers appears in the light of a local reform of a general evil. Is it not a shame and a scandal that preachers anywhere should be loose in conscience on this subject, and loose in practice? Does the contemptible fee hide the moral obliquity of these shameful re-marriages, at which ministers of the gospel officiate?

The inventor of a new fire extinguisher was recently very much astonished at the result, when on the occasion of a public exhibition of his discovery some mischievous boys substituted kerosene oil for his extinguishing fluid. It reminds us of the efforts of a multitude of pseudo reformers who merely add fuel to the flames of a great conflagration by substituting something else in place of the only genuine extinguishing fluid of prohibition. There are plenty of fire extinguishers which do not extinguish.

A man in New York was recently arrested and "held for observation" because he was seen praying on the street in front of his house. The police think he is insane. Doubtless they are wrong. If it was the impulse of a devotional spirit, he is sane enough in God's sight. If his object was "to be seen of men," he is sane enough from the world's point of view. If however the mere fact of his praying out-

side of conventional limits is regarded as evidence of insanity, we might admit that he was peculiar enough to justify the suspicion.

Dr. Pierson's article on "Ramabai and the Women of India" in the July number of *The Missionary Review of the World* is one of thrilling interest and deserves a prominent place among the Miracles of Missions. It is profusely and uniquely illustrated from original photographs and contains a great deal of information not contained elsewhere. Dr. Pierson gives an excellent idea of the deplorable condition of Hindu women—especially widows—tells the romantic story of Ramabai's life and describes the work which she has done and is doing in behalf of these unfortunate child widows.

Another timely article is that by Miss Belle M. Brain, "A Record of Fifty Years" giving the history of the Hermannsburg Mission which was founded just half a century ago by Pastor Louis Harms. This also is well illustrated and well worth reading. The wonderful story of Metlakatle, an ideal missionary station among the Indians in Alaska—is told by Rev. Edward Marsden, an educated Christian Indian, and by Mr. William Duncan the founder and director of the work. This village is a model settlement and is well pictured by pen and camera. The other articles in this number of the *Review* are scarcely less interesting and important. Rev. Arthur H. Smith and others write of "Recent Reform Movements in China." Egerton R. Young tells the thrilling story of "The Redman's Search for the White Man's Book," and Dr. Gracey gleams many helpful and striking facts from the life of George Muller.

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#### College Notes

The attendance for the coming year will, from all indications, be much larger than last year. And it ought to be for we are better prepared to do successful work. We always pride ourselves upon the character of the work done. Strong and effective work in the class-room counts. We welcome students, but only such as will work. As instructors we take a personal interest in the students.

We have several very enthusiastic friends here in Ashland county. Among our students of last year are two or three young men who are interested enough in the College to spend time in canvassing for students. One of them called for catalogs last week. He said he aimed to spend five or six days with his horse and buggy in the field soliciting students. He offered his service freely. These boys are not members of our church either. Why can we not have at least some among our many congregations who will do as much?

Last week I took the liberty to mail catalogs to the pastors of many of our churches. Without the aid of the pastors we can not reach those whom we ought to have in

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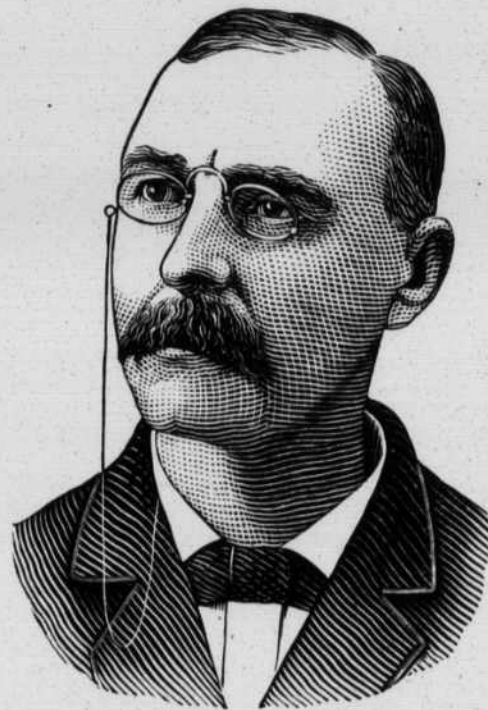
school. It would not take a very great effort to find in each congregation at least one young person who could be induced to come to school. A lasting service is rendered the young person who is persuaded to seek a higher education. There is no short road to learning, but a single term's work in school will influence the whole after life. Now is the time to enter upon the larger life of culture and usefulness. Will you take the step or help some one to do so?

The following words from Dr. J. H. Barrows, the new president of Oberlin college, are worth our consideration. He says:

The times we live in demand intelligence, sanctified by Christian faith and purpose. I look upon the Christian college as the chief saving force for the times ahead of us. Many of the problems which vex the anxious patriot can be solved only by the wisdom of experience. But this wisdom must not be hard and heartless wisdom of the mere scientist who may have little regard for moral forces. It should be the wisdom of those who have faith and hope and love.

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